

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-198 are before the Examiner. Claims 66-142 have been withdrawn. Claims 199-222 were cancelled in a prior submission.

ELECTION/RESTRICTION

The Office Action restricts the pending claims to the following groups:

Group I. Claims 1-65 and 143-198;

Group II. Claims 66-69;

Group III. Claims 70-103;

Group IV. Claims 104-135, 137, 139, 141; and

Group V. Claims 136, 138, 140, and 142.

Group I is provisionally elected with traverse. The restriction requirement is submitted to be improper because restriction of the claims will lead to duplicative searching and prosecution. Withdrawal of the restriction of, at least, Group I and Group II is respectfully requested.

As provided in MPEP § 821.04, Applicant respectfully reserves the right to rejoin non-elected claims in Group I (claims 1-37).

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully solicits a prompt notice of allowance. Applicant invites the Examiner to telephone the undersigned attorney if there are any issues outstanding which have not been presented to the Examiner's satisfaction.

Respectfully submitted,

June 16, 2008

Date

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